

Introduced by Senators Torlakson, Escutia, and Ortiz
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Saldana)

January 18, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 73—Relative to the California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 73, as introduced, Torlakson. California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness.

This measure would continue the existence and set forth the membership of the California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness, to perform duties to promote fitness and health in schools and workplaces. It would provide that the task force is to consist of Members of the Legislature and experts appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on Rules. It would provide that members of the task force are to conduct task force business on a volunteer basis, permit the task force to accept private funds and in-kind donations, require the task force to submit a report on its work to the Legislature on or before June 30, 2008, and provide that the task force would cease to exist on July 1, 2010, unless its existence is extended by a later enacted resolution.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The State of California is currently facing a
2 growing obesity crisis in which 60 percent of all adults are
3 overweight, 75 percent of children are unfit, and 25 percent of
4 children are overweight; and

5 WHEREAS, Healthy workplace and school environments can
6 greatly enhance the quality of life for California workers,

1 children and their families, prevent burnout and illness, and
2 enhance productivity of California businesses and students; and

3 WHEREAS, Corporate America traditionally overlooks the
4 importance of employee well-being in relation to the work
5 environment; and

6 WHEREAS, California's schools often present a model of
7 eating and activity that is incongruent with the healthy habits
8 encouraged in health, nutrition, and physical education; and

9 WHEREAS, Californians' obesity and overweight rates are
10 leading to an epidemic of Type II Diabetes (formerly known as
11 Adult Onset Diabetes) among children and adults, with
12 projections that one in three children born in 2006 will contract
13 the disease; and

14 WHEREAS, The current rates of overweight, inactivity,
15 obesity, and diabetes are costing California over 21 billion
16 dollars each year in health costs and lost productivity; and

17 WHEREAS, A legislative task force is necessary to provide a
18 framework and support to help California companies evolve to a
19 more holistic, long-term approach to employees and working
20 conditions; and

21 WHEREAS, A legislative task force is necessary to provide a
22 framework and support to California's schools in order to create
23 healthier education environments; and

24 WHEREAS, The California Task Force on Youth and
25 Workplace Wellness was created in 2001 by SCR 40 and SCR 99
26 to promote fitness and health in the Legislature, schools, and
27 workplaces; and

28 WHEREAS, The California Task Force on Youth and
29 Workplace Wellness has successfully elevated the profile of
30 fitness in the California Legislature, in schools and workplaces
31 statewide, and has created programs such as the Superintendent's
32 Challenge and California Fit Business Award to continue
33 encouraging healthy eating and activity environments for all
34 Californians; now, therefore, be it

35 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
36 *thereof concurring*, That the California Task Force on Youth and
37 Workplace Wellness is hereby continued to promote fitness and
38 health in the Legislature, schools, and workplaces; and be it
39 further

1 *Resolved*, That the task force shall be comprised of Members
2 of the Legislature and experts as follows:

3 (a) The task force shall have 20 voting members, with
4 additional advisory members and alternates as requested or
5 needed.

6 (b) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint two Members
7 from the Assembly, and the Senate Committee on Rules shall
8 appoint two Members from the Senate. Additionally, both the
9 Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Committee on Rules
10 shall each appoint alternate members from the Assembly and
11 from the Senate.

12 (c) Additionally, both the Speaker of the Assembly and the
13 Senate Committee on Rules shall each appoint members, from
14 each of the following categories:

15 (1) Two members from the field of education.

16 (2) Two members from the field of industry or business.

17 (3) Two members from the field of health.

18 (4) One member from the field of fitness; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That two “youth representatives” and two alternates
20 between the ages of 15 and 19 will be appointed as voting
21 members of the task force by the Statewide Youth Advisory
22 Board on Obesity, and approved by the task force chair, for
23 one-year terms, concurrent with the academic school year; and be
24 it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Members of the Legislature who serve on
26 the task force shall serve only to the extent that their service is
27 consistent with their duties as Members of the Legislature; and
28 be it further

29 *Resolved*, That the Senate Committee on Rules shall name the
30 chair of the task force; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That members of the task force shall be at-will
32 appointees serving at the pleasure of the Senate Committee on
33 Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly and shall be appointed
34 before July 1, 2006; and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That the members of the task force shall conduct the
36 business of the task force on a volunteer basis and shall not
37 receive a salary for services nor be reimbursed for travel and
38 other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as task
39 force members; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the task force shall have all of the following
2 duties:

3 (a) To meet twice a year to discuss strategies. The task force
4 shall strive to generate media and public interest in the activities
5 of the task force and its annual meetings in a manner that
6 elevates the importance of healthy and fit schools and workplaces
7 in the minds of all Californians.

8 (b) To support the existing task force Internet Web site, and to
9 publicize the task force mission statement and inform visitors of
10 resources available to California citizens, schools, and
11 companies. Features shall include a library of wellness tips, a
12 downloadable wellness handbook, case studies of successful
13 school and corporate wellness programs, including individual
14 success stories, and biographies of task force members.

15 (c) To generate media and legislative attention for the task
16 force and increase awareness of wellness issues.

17 (d) To submit a report on the work of the task force to the
18 Legislature on or before June 30, 2008; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That the task force shall create two subcommittees,
20 one on youth wellness, and another on corporate wellness, to
21 specialize work and expertise. Other subcommittees may be
22 created as the members of the task force deem appropriate. Each
23 subcommittee shall report on its work and findings to the entire
24 task force; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the task force is authorized to accept private
26 funds and in-kind donations to pay expenses incurred in
27 conducting its business. These expenses include, but are not
28 limited to, staff, administrative, meeting, and publication
29 expenses; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the task force shall cease to exist on July 1,
31 2010, unless a later enacted resolution that is enacted before that
32 date deletes or extends that date.